

## A New American Gold Rush Develops on Nevada's BLM Lands

By Bob Stewart, Nevada State Office

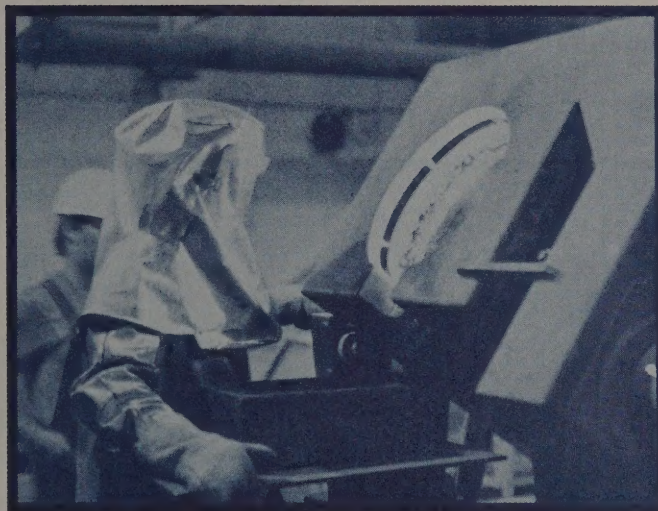
*"There's GOLD in them thar hills!!!"*

This old refrain from the gold rush days of the 1850s is now big business in Nevada with the rapid development of huge, new gold mines. Simultaneously, strong federal and state policies have been implemented to assure the public that the growth of the land-intensive mining is controlled in a fair and equitable manner.



With production only a few million dollars during the decade of the 70s, Nevada was hardly noticed in domestic gold statistics. In 1979, the industry began exploding. Most gold production comes from public lands and Nevada mines were responsible for 62 percent of U.S. domestic gold production in 1990. In 1988, \$1.6 billion in bullion came from Nevada and production in 1991 will be even greater.

The Betze Project of American Barrick in Elko County is a major proposed project for which an environmental impact statement is now being drafted.



Above: Pouring a gold bar at Newmont Mine in Nevada

Betze envisions an open pit 8,000 feet long, 4,800 feet wide and 1,800 feet deep — an area encompassing about 850 city blocks, and a depth more than three times the height of the Washington Monument.

In meeting the challenges posed by this and other projects like it, BLM continues to review the impact of mining on the environment and the resource. This includes implementation of the policies and initiatives of BLM Director Jamison and new state laws for

(Cont. on page 3)

### In this issue:

- |                                     |    |
|-------------------------------------|----|
| • Nissan 400 Off-Road Race          | 2  |
| • Arctic Treasure                   | 3  |
| • Black Colleges Steering Committee | 8  |
| • Elk Foundation Exhibit            | 10 |



# Las Vegas Hosts Second Nissan 400 Off-Road Race

by Lorraine Buck, Public Affairs Specialist,  
Las Vegas, NV District



*Ivan "Ironman" Stewart and his winning vehicle at the second annual Nissan 400 in Las Vegas, NV.*

The Las Vegas International Speedway was the start-finish line for the second annual "Nissan 400" off-highway vehicle race March 2 in the rugged desert north of Las Vegas. Some 195 drivers and teams from around the world, including South Africa and the Middle East, competing in 15 different classes for cars and trucks, and 74 motorcycles, faced the most prestigious off-road race in the High Desert Racing Association Series with its punishing 100.18 mile course.

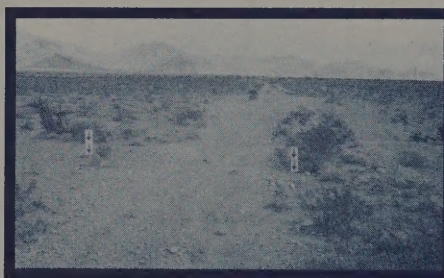
The racers confronted a treacherous trek through the dusty desert, hazardous mountain terrain north of Las Vegas and a notorious 8-mile stretch of road — a narrow path through wheel-sized boulders — affectionately called the "Rock Garden."

For more than a year, the BLM coordinated the sundry details of the race with the High Desert Racing Association (HDRA), particularly the race course route to ensure environmental protection. A formal Section 7 consultation (required when there is possible impact on endangered or threatened species) was initiated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) which issued a Biological Opinion stating that the HDRA Nissan 400 is "not likely to jeopardize" the continued existence of the Mojave population of the desert tortoise.

Additionally, the FWS required the HDRA to flag, banner and fence all active tortoise burrow locations and station a BLM monitor at each active site. Pre-race and post-race

photographs of each burrow site were compared to document the promoter's compliance with BLM's mandatory race stipulations.

The BLM race officials strictly enforced the sites designated



*Las Vegas International Speedway racecourse marked with DQ signs.*

as no-passing/disqualification (DQ) zones. Mandatory driver meetings to discuss tortoise zones have elevated driver awareness to the awareness to the adverse consequences of ignoring these extremely sensitive areas.

*(Cont. on page 12)*



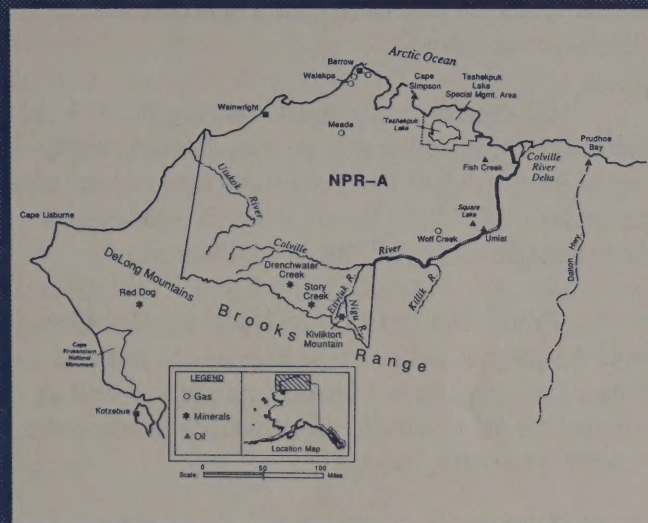
# ARCTIC TREASURE

## The National Petroleum Reserve in Alaska

by Edward Bovy  
and Jane Mangus  
Alaska State Office  
Public Affairs

Alaska's National Petroleum Reserve is a land of immense dichotomies. The sun lazily sets one day in mid-November to sleep until mid-January. On an otherwise ordinary day in mid-May, the sun rises with a vengeance and shines constantly 24 hours a day until August. The temperature fluctuates from 80 degrees below zero to 80 degrees above. Desolate and lifeless for months, on cue, the land bursts forth with brilliant, dainty flowers and millions of magnificent

(Cont. on page 4)



## Gold (Cont. from page 1)

mining reclamation and wildlife protection. The industry is also extremely concerned about its image in conserving the environment while utilizing the resource. Last summer, the mining and range industries joined BLM in developing riparian enhancement projects at Sonoma Creek. BLM is in the process of coordinating future riparian projects with the Nevada Mining Association.

The BLM is a major participant creating partnerships to address the various programs and the divergent issues. In 1990, a federal-state-industry environmental task force developed the state's new mining reclamation law which specifically references federal statute as the basis for the state regulations.

The BLM and the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) have cooperated to craft consensus policies and non-duplicative procedures. For example, BLM uses the state standard for flushing cyanide heap leach pads, while the state relies on BLM land use plans for revegetation and seeding in planning reclamation.

Bonding gold mining operations has become one of the more important and complicated issues for discussion and collaboration. Supported by the Nevada Mining Association, the new BLM policy was integrated into the latest state reclamation and bonding law. With an emphasis on phased bonding, early bonds range from \$1 to \$2 million for initial segments of new mines. Adequate bonding to ensure reclamation proves to be a difficult challenge when one handles mines that could contain heap leach pads covering more than 100 acres,

(Cont. on back page)



## Petroleum Reserve

(Cont. from page 3)

birds. Underneath its ecologically pristine and delicate surface lie vast treasures of coal, gas and numerous other mineral deposits.

Established by President Harding in 1923, the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska (NPR-A) is the largest single tract of BLM-managed land. About the size of Indiana, 37,000 square miles, it is located on the northernmost edge of the United States.

From 1944 to 1953, the Navy, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and private contractors conducted geologic and seismic test analyses, as well as regional detailed geologic investigations to assess the Reserve's mineral potential.

In 1985, the USGS calculated that NPR-A, where 50 percent of the area is within the North Slope Petroleum Province, contains an estimated 5.97 billion barrels of oil. To date, oil has been discovered in Umiat, in the Simpson area and in the Fish Creek area. The Umiat area is considered a sub-giant oil field with an estimated 70 to 120 million barrels of recoverable oil, as well as large estimates of natural gas reserves.

In 1976, Congress transferred the reserve from the Navy to the Department of the Interior. From 1976 until 1981, the BLM managed the surface of the reserve and the USGS drilled 26 test holes to obtain various general geologic and resource information.

In 1980, Congress directed the BLM to begin an expeditious oil and gas leasing program. Four lease sales were held between 1981 and 1984; 1,350,000 acres were leased. Although one well was drilled, interest from the oil industry has slackened and leases have been relinquished since oil prices have been low.

Currently, there are 11 leases covering 228,000 acres. Gary Brougham, chief of Alaska BLM's Branch of Minerals Assessment, says, "At the end of 1989, the BLM Arctic District mailed a 'Letter of Interest' to various oil companies to determine their

interest in an upcoming lease sale. BLM received a moderate response from the industry to proposed lease sales in the Reserve."

Presently, gas fields are located at Barrow, Walakpa, Square Lake, Meade, and Wolf Creek. The South and East Barrow gas fields are currently producing. Evaluation of present scant data indicates appreciable potential for significant gas resources elsewhere within NPR-A.

Mineralization has been identified in at least three areas in the southern portion of NPR-A: Drenchwater Creek, Kivliktort Mountain and Story Creek. The geology is generally similar to that of the Red Dog lead-zinc deposit, recognized as a worldclass deposit which is now being developed to the west of NPR-A. Assays at Drenchwater Creek contain about 31 percent zinc and 8 percent lead, compared to the 17 percent zinc and 5 percent lead found at Red Dog, recognized as a world-class deposit.

Noteworthy concentrations of silver, chromium, barium, cadmium, antimony, fluorine, nickel, copper and platinum have also been discovered in NPR-A. Many of these minerals have been classified as strategic and critical for U.S. defense requirements. Phosphate rocks have also been found; however, their extent and quality are still undetermined. These may yield valuable by-products such as uranium, vanadium and rare earths. Rare earths

(cont. on next page)

*NPR-A is a great place for geologists -- no trees hide the rocks. Here a field party prepares for a day's work assessing the mineral potential of the area.*





## Petroleum Reserve

(Cont. from page 4)



Above: Kivliktort Mountain.

Below: Geologist Jim Callahan examines a rock specimen with a hand lens.



are an essential ingredient in the search for a "superconductor." Recent advances in this newly emerging technology may spark interest for additional exploration.

Additionally, the NPR-A has enormous deposits of sub-bituminous and bituminous coal. Speculative estimates indicate these deposits may contain between 300 billion and 4 trillion tons. One estimate concludes that there are about 200 billion short tons of coal in seams at least five feet thick and less than 1,000 feet deep. Over time with improved technology, these deposits could be economically mine

There are several problems that must be solved, however, before any hardrock mining could occur. First, Congress must legislate the reserve to allow mineral entry before mining could occur. Second, the reserve will require more definitive and broad-based exploration efforts in order to determine the extent of its mineral deposits.

The oil, gas and mineral resources in NPR-A are truly significant. They are a very important part of BLM's overall management of the reserve. Yet for now, the NPR-A remains a buried, unopened treasure chest waiting for time and economics to work in its favor.



Two decades of BLM Alaska leadership came together recently when former Alaska State Director Mike Penfold (center), now Assistant Director for Lands and Renewable Resources, visited Alaska and met with current Alaska SD Ed Spang (left), and another former Alaska SD Curt McVee (right), now Federal Co-Chairman of the Alaska Land Use Council. Spang, Penfold and McVee shared experiences and discussed future issues relevant to Alaska.





## Alaska

### New BLM Employees

Nolan D. Heath, Civil Engr., SO

### Reassignments/Promotions

Helen Armstrong, Anthrol., MMS to SO

James Andrews, Supvy, Civil Engr., Oregon SO to SO

Alice Chavez, Land Law Exam., SO

Michael Clark, Land Surv., SO

Michael Eldridge, Land Surv., California SO to SO

George Flippen, Land Law Exam., SO

Thomas Boyd, Fishery Biol. Mgmt. to Subsistence Prog. Mgr., SO

### Retirements

William D. Athas, Support Services Supv., SO

Cecil V. Strader, Small Engine Mechanic, SO

### Other Separations

Ralph Basner, Land Law Exam., SO

Dorothy Preston, Land Law Exam., SO

Steven Worden, Fire Support Spec., Fire Service

James McFarlin, Contact Rep., SO

Jesse Hicks, Land Law Exam., SO

Terrance O'Sullivan, Outdoor Rec. Planner, SO

Michael Hogan, Land Law Exam., SO

## Arizona

### New BLM Employees

Ronald J. Clayton, Volunteer Prog. Coord., SO

### Reassignment

Benjamin M. Robles, Range Con. to Natural Res. Spec., Safford DO

Levi D. Deike, Supv. Multi. Res. Spec., Roswell DO to Area Mgr., Yuma DO

Terrance P. O'Sullivan, Outdoor Rec. Planner, Alaska SO to SO

Robert E. Currier, Admin. Officer, Wyoming SO to SO

Gregory M. Yuncevich, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., California SO to Supv. Con. Area Spec., Safford DO

Diane Drobka, Natural Res. Spec. to Public Affairs Spec., Safford DO

Michael J. Herder, Biol. Tech. (Wildlife) to Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Arizona Strip DO

### Separations

Patricia M. Powell, Geol., BLM Trng. Ctr.

## California

### New BLM Employees

Michael J. Beaucage, Supvy. Print. Spec., SO

Benjamin N. Middleton, Aircraft Pilot, SO

Margaret F. Faulk, Public Affairs Spec., SO

Carlos Lopez, Soil Con., Bakersfield DO, to Audio-Visual Spec., SO

Glenn M. Moore, BLM Ranger, Barstow RA

### Reassignments/Promotions

Michael Truden, Realty Spec., Rock Springs RA, to Supv. Realty Spec., Ukiah DO

Andrew Tarshis, Data Admin., Wyoming SO to SO

Charles Doman, Land Surv., Service Center to SO

David Sjaastad, Range Con., Burley DO, to Supv. Range Con., Ridgecrest RA

James Watkins, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., El Centro RA

Nancy Tarshis, Appraiser, Wyoming SO to SO

Kathryn O'Connor, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Ridgecrest RA

Rudy Tafoya, Surv. Tech., New Mexico to Civil Engr. Tech., Suprise RA

Kathleen A. Simmons, Admin. Officer, Ukiah DO

Michael Hogan, Land Law Exam., Alaska SO, to Realty Spec., Ridgecrest RA

### Retirement

David W. Raney, Supvy. Forester, Folsom RA

## Colorado

### New BLM Employees

Charlotte Sasonkin, Archaeologist, White River RA

### Reassignments/Promotions

Joseph Kraayenbrink, Supv. Range Con., Lakeview RA, to Area Mgr., San Luis RA

Richard Ryan, Pet. Engr., SO

Katherine Kitchell, Envir. Prot. Spec., Montrose DO, to Area Mgr., Kremmling RA

### Other Separations

Ray Clanton, Pet. Engr., Craig DO

Mark Philiber, Pet. Engr. Tech., San Juan RA

## Idaho

### Reassignments/Promotions

Signe Sather-Blair, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Fish/Wildlife Serv., Oregon, to DO

Thomas J. Zarriello, Geographer

Scott D. Barker, Realty Spec., Rawlins DO to Burley DO

Thomas H. Averett, Ranger, Riverside DO to Coeur d'Alene DO

William A. Cook, Forester, Cottonwood RA to Coeur d'Alene DO

James D. Barnum, Range Con., Rawlins DO to Shoshone DO

Jeffrey M. Gardetto, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Elko DO to Shoshone DO

Paul B. McClain, Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Riverside DO to Shoshone DO

### Retirement

Orland F. Morgan, Safety/Occup. Health Spec., Idaho Falls DO

## Montana

### New BLM Employees

Lee Lingard, Criminal Invest., SD's office

### Reassignments/Promotions

Peter Bierbach, Hydrol. to Physical Scientist, SO

Robert Bump, Soil Scientist to Natural Res. Spec., Dillon RA

Joyce Norris, Supvy. Records Mgmt. Spec., SO

Charles Switzer, Admin. Officer to Prog. Analyst, SO

Steve Toth, Land Surv., SO

### Retirements

Clair Clark, Soil Scientist, Lewistown DO

Harlan Hayes, Forester, Butte DO

Ernest Kemmis, Infor. Services Mgr., SO

Jarvis Klem, Mining Engr., SO

Duane Lindenberg, Land Surv., SO

Robert Teegarden, Operations Mgr., SO

### Other Separations

Bradley Brown, Employee Relations Spec., SO

Winifred Koopman, Public Affairs Spec., SO

## New Mexico

### New BLM Employees

John R. Brenna Jr., Criminal Invest. SO

Charles B. Lummus, Public Affairs Spec., Las Cruces DO

### Reassignments/Promotions

Mary Ann Lucero, Support Serv. Supv. to Printing Spec., SO

Cathleen Cooney, Land Law Exam. to Supvy. Mgmt. Analyst, SO

Margo K. Strid, Computer Spec., Carlsbad RA, to Computer Prog. Analyst, Farmington RA

Richard A. Trujillo, Cartographic Tech. to Cartographer, SO

John D. Selkirk, Range Tech. (Fire) to Fire/Aviation Spec., SO

### Retirements

Ralph G. Dillow, Pet. Engr. Tech., Carlsbad RA

Ernest R. Achterberg, Mining Engr., Tulsa DO

### Other Separations

Mark D. Holmes, Geol., Farmington RA

Jerry P. Townsend, Range Con., Albuquerque DO

Gerald Sanchez, Appraiser, SO

## Nevada

### New BLM Employees

Randolph L. August, Supvy. BLM Ranger, Stateline RA



Lynnda L. Jackson, Range Con., Paradise-Denio RA

Tracey J. Irons, Range Con., Lahontan RA

John A. Longinetti, Range Con., Egan RA

#### Reassignments/Promotions

Rodger T. Bryan, Wildlife Biol., Battle Mountain RA, to Wildlife Mgmt. Biol., Winnemucca DO

Milton N. Frei, Range Con. to Mgmt. Analyst, NSO

#### Retirements

Arthur J. Hayes, Mgmt. Analyst, SO

Richard D. Wheeler, Range Con., Winnemucca DO

#### Other Separations

Brian W. Hatoff, Archeologist, Carson City DO

R. Brian Horne, Computer Spec., Carson City DO

Nancy L. Logue, Geologist, Winnemucca DO

### Oregon

#### Promotions/Reassignments

Patricia A. Walker, Realty Spec., Prineville DO

John H. Wilson, Forester, Colorado, to Roseburg DO

William I. Andersen, Range Con., Burns DO

Eric R. Heenan, Civil Engr. Tech., Roseburg DO

David H. Calver, Forestry Tech., Salem DO

Alina R. Malray, Employee Develop. Spec., SO

Lorraine M. Stebbins, Computer Asst., SO

John N. Jones, Forestry Tech., Roseburg DO

Evan G. Olson, Forestry Tech., Roseburg DO

Betty M. McCarthy, Land Law Exam., SO

Dennis F. Saub, Employee Relations Spec., SO

Liang Y. Hsin, Forester, SO

Charlene Rogers, Range Con., Vale DO

Stephen R. Davidson, Realty Spec., Vale DO

Nancy T.P. Anderson, Forester, SO

Robert D. Rheiner Jr., Assoc. SD, SO

Alan B. Bail, Area Mgr., Lakeview DO

Daniel P. Carpenter, Hydrol., Coos Bay DO

Jerry W. Bourasa, Range Tech., Vale DO

Brent J. Cunderla, Geol., Spokane DO

C. W. Haubrich, Natural Res. Spec. (ARD Coord. for RA), Eugene DO

Thomas E. Jackson, Natural Res. Spec. (ARD Coord. for RA), Eugene DO

Gary W. Wilkinson, Natural Res. Spec. (ARD Coord. for RA), Eugene DO

Garwood R. Allen, Geol., Vale DO

#### Retirements

Ronald R. Sadler, Natural Resource Spec.

Franklin M. Fuller, Tractor Operator

William D. Rand, Forestry Tech.

Raymond F. Naddy, Public Affairs Spec.

William H. Boyd, Supvy. Forester

Charles R. Niver, Forestry Tech.

John R. Gundran, Civil Engr. Tech.

#### Other Separations

George V. Shales, Civil Engr., Lakeview DO

Nancy J. Brooks, Info. Rec., SO

Darren L. Jungling, Info. Receptionist, SO

Celia A. Hammond, Secretary, SO

Janet M. Burns, Personnel Actions Clerk, SO

John D. See, Heavy Equip. Operator

### Utah

#### New BLM Employees

Glenn D. Foreman, Public Affairs Spec., Salt Lake DO

Michael O. Wintch, Special Prog. Coord., External Affairs, SO

#### Reassignments/Promotions

Teresa E. McParland, Geol., Moab DO to SO

Leah Anne Quesenberry, Wildlife Biol., Albuquerque RA to San Juan RA

Gary Lynn Johnson, Supvy. Mining Engr., Moab DO

#### Other Separations

Randall Weatherly, Computer Spec., SO

### Wyoming

#### New BLM Employees

Raymond L. Wilson, EEO Mgr., SO

Gary DeMarcay, Archaeologist, Rawlins DO

#### Reassignments/Promotions

Scott Barker, Realty Spec., Lander RA to Snake River RA

Doug Barnum, Range Con., Lander RA to Bennett Hills RA

Richard W. Bastin, DM, Rawlins DO, to DSD, L&RR, Idaho SO

Larry Claypool, Pet. Engr. to Supvy. Pet. Engr., Rawlins DO

Stephen B. Kiracofe, Soil Scientist, Elko DO to Worland DO

Michael J. Martin, Criminal Invest. to Supvy. Criminal Invest., SO

John S. (Stan) McKee, Chief, Solid Minerals Leasing, WO, to Assoc. DM, Rock Springs DO

Criss Whalley, Range Con., Tonopah RA to Cody RA

#### Retirements

Edward McTaggart, Natural Res. Spec., SO

Ralph Randles, Pet. Engr. Tech., Rawlins DO

Albert Robidoux, Engr. Equip. Operator, Rawlins DO

#### Other Separations

Victor R. Wire, Civil Engr. Tech., Rock Springs DO

Steven Strenger, Soil Scientist, Rawlins DO

### Service Center

#### New BLM Employees

Phyllis O'Neill, Position Class. Spec., Div. of Personnel

Gerald Pittman, Land Surv., Div. of Tech. Svcs.

Bernice Duke, Property Mgmt. Spec., Div. of Admin. Svcs.

William E. Ball, Physical Scientist, Div. of Tech. Svcs.

William M. Griffith, Supv. Mgmt. Analyst, Ofc. of SC Director

#### Other Separations

William S. Adrich, Computer Prog. Analyst, Div. of Sys. Eng.

Sherri L. Perry, Voucher Exam., Div. of Finance

### Boise Interagency Fire Center

#### New BLM Employees

Sandra Steele, Computer Prog. Analyst, Div. of Info. Sys.



*Tracking Personnel* is compiled from information submitted by State Office Personnel Branches to the Service Center in Denver by the 15th of every other month. If an office is not listed here, the submission was not received in the Service Center by the deadline. Submissions should be made through the electronic mail system to YA530.



## BLM Around the Country

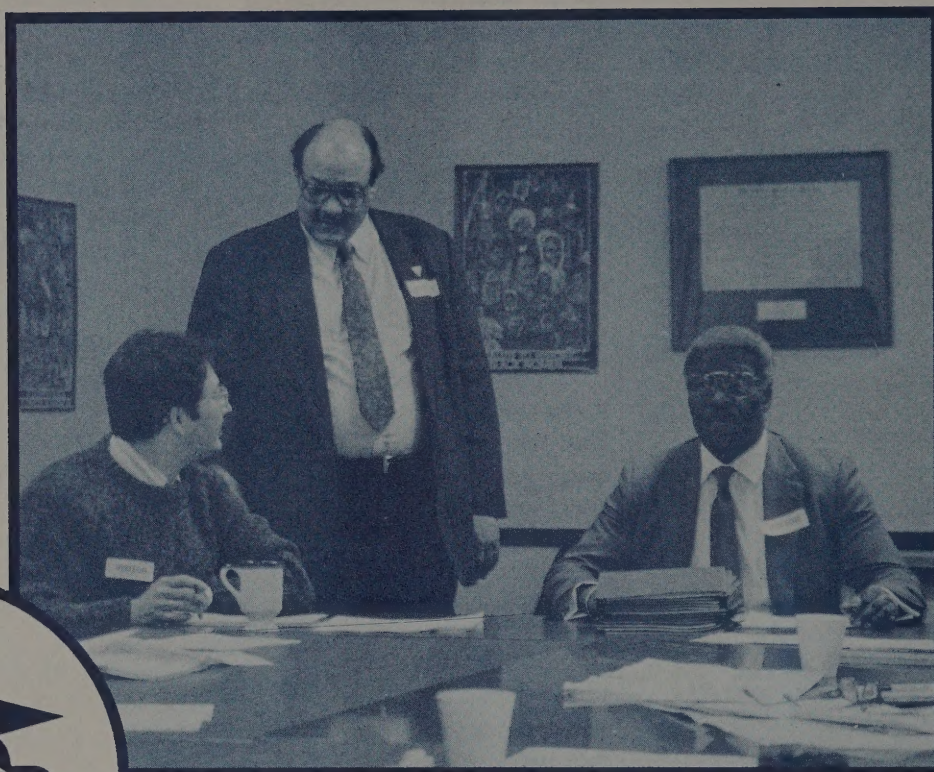


Photo by Bob Ward.



The BLM Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Steering Committee met for the first time Feb. 11-12, at the Eastern States Office. The HBCU Committee is providing guidance and direction to the BLM in establishing and maintaining active and visible outreach programs with the Nation's HBCU's. The Steering Committee is fulfilling the mandates of Executive Order 12677, Secretary Lujan's HBCU Initiative and BLM Director Jamison's Equal Employment Opportunity objectives.

At the meeting, Robert Faithful (standing), Assistant Director for Support Services and the HBCU Committee Chairperson, explained the Steering Committee's purpose and mission to the new members. Steve Shafron (seated to left), Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist from BLM's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity is a member of the HBCU Committee. Dr. Ira Hutchison (seated to right) Director of the Department of Interior's Office of Historically Black Colleges and Universities Programs and Job Corps, discussed the role of his office and its relationship to each Bureau and Office within the Department.



# BLM Around the Country



Mike Penfold congratulates Dick Bouts, from Alaska recreation for receiving the "Outstanding Contribution to the Profession" award



Bob Wick (right), from Canon City District, receives an "Outstanding Coordination with Community and User Groups," award from Susan Lamson, Deputy Director for External Affairs and Assistant Director for Lands and Renewable Resources, Mike Penfold.



Mark Buckbee, supervisory engineering technician in the Roseburg District, accepts the award for "Outstanding Use of Volunteers and Creative Funding."

The theme for the BLM's nationwide recreation workshop, which was recently held in San Diego, was "A New Leader for a New Time." Throughout the week, sessions focused on the new directions that the BLM is heading with its recreation program. More than 170 people attended the week-long workshop. In addition to the regular sessions, an awards banquet was held to recognize BLM professionals who have made outstanding contributions in recreation management on BLM lands. All photos by Doran Sanchez, California Desert District



Bill Calkins, Alaska Associate State Director (right), congratulates Sally Wisely (left) Area Manager San Juan Resource Area, for receiving Colorado's "Outstanding Manager of the Year" award.



Tim Read (right), supervisory recreation planner in the Barstow District, CA accepts an award for "Outstanding Contribution to Environmental Education."



Richard Morris (right), campground manager from the Butte District, MT accepts an "Outstanding Service Award" award from Deputy Director for External Affairs Susan Lamson (center) and Assistant Director for Lands and Renewable Resources Mike Penfold (left).



## ***BLM Around the Country***



Director Cy Jamison at BLM's booth at the National Elk Foundation Exhibit held in Denver's Convention Center in late February. The enlarged and "slightly revised" BLM emblem was designed and produced by the Service Center's Technology Transfer Staff. The Director joined Forest Service Chief Dale Robertson and Colorado Division of Wildlife Director Perry Olson in addressing nearly 1,000 attendees at the 1991 Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's annual meeting. This conservation group was recognized by the three federal agencies for its tremendous work and efforts during the last seven years in actively funding and working on wildlife habitat enhancement.

Photo by Marta Witt.



## BLM Around the Country

# SCOUTS PITCH IN TO CLEAN OUR PUBLIC LANDS

The BLM Ely district office and Ely Boy Scout Troop #62 co-sponsored a Public Lands Clean-Up Day, Sept. 20, 1990. The Scouts, with the help of BLM representatives Brett Covlin and Joe Morris, both from the Schell Resource Area, restored the public lands along Willard Creek.

The project was done in conjunction with the national "Public Lands Clean-Up Day," a commemorative day to increase the public's awareness of the critical need to clean up the nation's public lands. The Willard Creek project also afforded the participating Scouts the opportunity to earn credits for their next scouting upgrade.

Willard Creek is located in South Spring Valley near the Great Basin National Park. This area


has historically been used by campers, fishermen, hunters, and sheepherders. Unfortunately, over the years, users have left enough refuse at this site to completely cram an entire giant trash dumpster. The

Scouts, working all day, picked up everything that didn't grow except dirt and rocks. With BLM supervision, the Scouts cans, plastic, car parts, bumpers, gas tanks, and radio parts. Everyone had a good time and enthusiastically cooperated to complete the project.



*BLM Ely District's Joe Morris works with Scouts Joe Stratton, J.R. Shuft, Joe Morris and Jeremy Podborny in their clean-up project of Willard Creek.*

The Scouts enjoyed refreshments from


Rocky Mountain Produce of Ely and lunch from BLM. This project was so successful that the Boy Scouts have identified several other areas for future clean-up projects. 



## Gold (Cont. from Page 3)

obliterate a major hill, or plunge deep into the valley floor.


The most recent federal and state policies have indirectly raised other pertinent issues such as the standards for backfilling and the protection of archaeological sites on mineral lands. The upfront coordination of BLM policies and the cooperative efforts of the range and mining associations has decreased the conflicts between these traditional users of the range.

The high-tech precision and complexities of today's corporate mining industry are a far cry from the simple individual prospector with his pick axe and pet mule of the 1850s. Today, BLM's management of hardrock minerals is integrated with FLPMA's multiple use mandates, as well as the requirements of NEPA and many other environmental laws. Careful planning for reclamation and attention to environmental considerations are required for mining operations. With implementation of innovative tools — improved bonding procedures, cautious standards for flushing cyanide heap leach pads, and advanced techniques for revegetation and seeding in planning reclamation — the BLM and the mining industry are working within a new set of rules to better ensure environmentally safe mineral development. 

## Off-Road Race

(cont. from page 2)

BLM law enforcement rangers from the Las Vegas District and Carson City, NV, and from the California Desert District's Barstow and Palm Springs Resource Areas assisted the Stateline Resource Area personnel in controlling the estimated 2,000 to 5,000 spectators, managing the race and monitoring the compliance for the active tortoise burrow sites.

Ivan "Ironman" Stewart captured the checkered flag with his Nissan car's incredible time of 8:04:42, while the last of the 103 mud-covered vehicles crossed the finish line at 3 a.m. the next morning, right under the 18-hour time limit for this grueling race. The cheers of the crowd and the roar of the engines are now faint echoes in the desert until next year's Nissan 400. 

BLM Library  
Denver Federal Center  
Bldg. 50, OC-521  
P.O. Box 25047  
Denver, CO 80225

### Inside Track

U.S. Department of the Interior  
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18th & C Streets, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20240  
Cy Jamison, Director  
Susan Lamson, Deputy Director  
for External Affairs  
Mike Ratliff, Chief,  
Division of Public Affairs  
Michelle Dawson Paladino, Editor

*Inside Track*, BLM's employee newsletter, is published every other month by the Division of Public Affairs.

*Tracking Personnel* is compiled from information submitted by State Office Personnel Branches to the Service Center in Denver.